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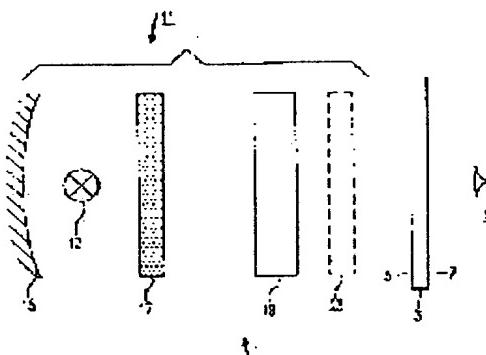
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(54) ILLUMINATION SYSTEM AND DISPLAY DEVICE INCLUDING SUCH ILLUMINATION SYSTEM

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To provide an efficient illumination system capable of converting the irradiation of the max. quantity from an irradiation source to irradiation having the polarization characteristic of a desired direction and a display device including such illumination system.

CONSTITUTION: This display device 1 has a display panel 3 and the illumination system 11 including an irradiation source 13 and a diffuser 17. The device is provided with a cholesteric filter 19 between the irradiation source 13 and the display panel 3 in order to execute polarization conversion with high efficiency. The filter allows the transmission of such irradiation having the desired polarization state within a wavelength range equal to at least the entire visible wavelength range. Further, the device is provided with a reflector 15 on the side further from the filter of the diffuser 17. The reflector sends back the irradiation which is reflected by the filter 19 and is eliminated of the polarization by the diffuser 17 to the filter.



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